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Boston College Law School

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## WBA and WBF Elect BC Alumnae as Presidents

**03/20/09--THE WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION (WBA) AND THE WOMEN'S BAR FOUNDATION (WBF) HAVE JUST ELECTED BC LAW ALUMNAE MICHELLE PEIRCE '90 AND ERIN HIGGINS '91 AS PRESIDENTS OF THEIR ORGANIZATIONS.**

03/20/09--The Women's Bar Association (WBA) and the Women's Bar Foundation (WBF) have just elected BC Law Alumnae Michelle Peirce '90 and Erin Higgins '91 as presidents of their organizations.

Peirce is a partner at Donoghue Barrett & Singhal, P.C., in Boston, and she specializes in complex civil litigation and white-collar criminal defense. She has worked as an associate at Goodwin Proctor, an Assistant District Attorney for the Cambridge District Court, as Vice President of Lawyers Weekly, Inc., as an adjunct professor at Suffolk Law, and as clerk for Judge Andrew A. Caffrey.

Higgins is a partner at Conn Kavanaugh Rosenthal Peisch & Ford, LLP in Boston. She practices business litigation, employment litigation and professional liability defense and chairs the Pro Bono Committee at her firm. She was named one of the "Top 50 Women Lawyers in New England" and one of the "Top 50 Women Lawyers in Massachusetts" by Law and Politics and the publishers of Boston Magazine for 2008.

The WBA and its sister organization, the WBF, are dedicated to promoting the interests of women in the legal profession and ensuring full and equal participation of women in the legal profession.

"The WBA of Massachusetts is deeply committed to using legal skills to do good work in society," Peirce said. "I like to think this is what BC Law strives to teach its students. Whether we are working to advance women in the profession or advocating for legislation to help our most vulnerable community members, the WBA is leading the fight for equality."

The WBF provides pro bono legal services to establish an equitable legal system that promotes social and economic equity for women and children in need. The WBF currently runs five different pro bono legal services programs for women in Massachusetts, providing assistance to the most needy citizens--victims of domestic violence, homeless women and children, low-income elders, incarcerated women, and low-income tenants on the brink of homelessness.

"I think the sense of being part of a larger community that we had at BC Law has carried over into our legal careers, and made us recognize that we have obligations outside of our immediate circles of families and friends," Higgins said.

